

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: DeBorde et al.
Serial No.: Unassigned Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Filed: Herewith Examiner: Unassigned
Title: BOARD FOR GLIDING

Preliminary Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. 1.121(a)

To: Box PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

Page 1, line 2, following the title please amend by inserting a new first paragraph:

-- Cross Reference to Related Applications

This application claims the priority of French application FR/01.02279, filed February 20, 2001, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference. --

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 13 and 14, and add new claims 18 and 19 as follows:

1. **(Amended)** A board for gliding for downhill skiing, comprising:
 - a lower gliding surface comprising a sole plate bordered by metal edges;
 - a topsheet substantially parallel to the lower gliding surface, on either side of the center longitudinal plane of the board;
 - lateral faces extending between the metal edges and the topsheet, said lateral faces having recesses located below the plane of the topsheet and opening out in the topsheet;wherein the base of the recesses forms a slope that is inclined longitudinally relative to the lower gliding surface and the topsheet.
13. **(Amended)** The board for gliding as claimed in claim 7, wherein the lateral zone having damping properties is located to the front of the recess, the lateral zone having dynamizing properties being located to the rear of the recess.
14. **(Amended)** The board for gliding as claimed in claim 7, wherein the lateral zone having damping properties is located to the rear of the recess, the lateral zone having dynamizing properties being located to the front of the recess.
18. **(New)** The board for gliding as claimed in claim 8, wherein the lateral zone having damping properties is located to the front of the recess, the lateral zone having dynamizing properties being located to the rear of the recess.
19. **(New)** The board for gliding as claimed in claim 8, wherein the lateral zone having damping properties is located to the rear of the recess, the lateral zone having dynamizing properties being located to the front of the recess.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 13 and 14 were amended, and new claims 18 and 19 were added herewith in order to bring the form thereof into compliance with the requirements of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and U.S. patent law, and to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Specifically, new claims 18 and 19 incorporate the subject matter of multiply dependent claims 13 and 14 into singly dependent form. Claim 1 has been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention. No new matter has been added.

Attached hereto is a marked up version of the changes made to claims 1, 13 and 14. New claims 18 and 19 have not been duplicated. The attached page is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made.**"

If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, Applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him/her at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: February 20, 2002

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"VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

1. **(Amended)** A board for gliding for downhill skiing, comprising [of "shell"-type construction, having, at least in its underfoot zone]:
- a lower gliding surface comprising [composed of] a sole plate bordered by metal edges;
 - a topsheet substantially parallel to the lower gliding surface, on either side of the center longitudinal plane of the board;
 - lateral faces extending between the metal edges and the topsheet, said lateral faces having recesses located below the plane of the topsheet and opening out in the [latter] topsheet;
- wherein the base of the recesses forms a slope that is inclined longitudinally relative to the lower gliding surface and the topsheet.
13. **(Amended)** The board for gliding as claimed in [claims] claim 7 [and 8], wherein the lateral zone having damping properties is located to the front of the recess, the lateral zone having dynamizing properties being located to the rear of the recess.
14. **(Amended)** The board for gliding as claimed in [either of claims] claim 7 [and 8], wherein the lateral zone having damping properties is located to the rear of the recess, the lateral zone having dynamizing properties being located to the front of the recess.